

Message Text

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ORIGIN ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ERDA-05 CIAE-00 H-02 INR-07

IO-10 L-03 NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-03 PRS-01

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DRAFTED BY OSD/ISA:RCLARKE
APPROVED BY ACDA/IR:ACFLOYD
EUR/RPM:GCHRISTIANSON
PM:CFLOWERREE
C:WSHINN
OSD:LMICHAEL
JCS:RMCCANN
ACDA:THIRSCHFELD
NSC:SHADLEY
S/S - MR. ORTIZ

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P R 011640Z AUG 75
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USMISSION NATO PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY BONN
USDEL MBFR VIENNA
USNMR SHAPE
USCINCEUR

S E C R E T STATE 181816

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:PARM, NATO, MBFR

SUBJECT:MBFR: DATA STUDIES

REFS: A. NATO 3356 B. NATO 3657

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1. ALTHOUGH US POSITION HAS NOT BEEN DEVELOPED REGARDING

PARA 1, REF A, WE FEEL THE LIST OF BASIC SOURCE DOCUMENTS FOR MBFR IS EXCESSIVE. IN FACT, THE MAJORITY ARE NOT PURELY MBFR RELATED. WE BELIEVE NATO SHOULD KEEP THE NUMBER OF SO-CALLED MBFR DOCUMENTS TO THE MINIMUM IN ORDER TO PREVENT CONFLICTING INTERPRETATION OF DATA OR CONFUSION AS TO WHAT CONSTITUTES THE LATEST DATA.

A. AC/276 DATA ON NATO AND WP FORCES (ALSO KNOWN AS NATO BLUE BOOKS) COVERS THE ENTIRE SPECTRUM OF NATO GROUND FORCES FROM NORWAY TO TURKEY, ACTIVE, RESERVE AND PARAMILITARY. BUT BECAUSE IT COVERS SUCH A WIDE RANGE OF FORCES WE BELIEVE IT SHOULD BE CONSIDERED AS A GENERAL DATA BOOK ON NATO FORCES RATHER THAN AS A MBFR DOCUMENT PER SE. IT THEREFORE SHOULD BE DROPPED FROM THE LIST OF BASIC RECURRING MBFR DATA PUBLICATIONS.

B. WITH THE DEVELOPMENT OF MCM 86 AND THE N-30 COMPANION VOLUME ON NATO FORCES WE BELIEVE THE DOCUMENT ENTITLED "REVISED ASSESSMENT OF MANPOWER STRENGTH FOR NATO AND WP FORCES IN THE NGA" IS REDUNDANT AND IS NO LONGER NECESSARY.

C. AC/276 MAJOR GROUND AND AIR FORCES NATO AND WARSAW PACT COMBAT UNITS AVAILABILITY STATUS SHOULD BE DROPPED AS AN MBFR DOCUMENT BECAUSE IT ESSENTIALLY DEALS WITH MUCH MORE THAN THE NGA. IT SHOULD BE RETAINED AS A GENERAL DOCUMENT PRIMARILY FOR THREAT ANALYSIS USE.

D. IN SUM, WE BELIEVE THAT MCM 86 AND ITS COMPANION VOLUME FOR NATO FORCES SHOULD BE THE ONLY NATO DOCUMENTS CURRENTLY CONSIDERED AS BASIC RECURRING MBFR DATA PUBLICATIONS.

2. WE APPROVE REVISIONS INCORPORATED IN REF B, AND WE SUPPORT CHANGING THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF REPORTED STRENGTH FROM 31 DECEMBER TO MID-YEAR. INGERSOLL

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